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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/713,444	11/15/2000	James E. Fergen	28299/34088E	4876

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EXAMINER

ST CYR, DANIEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2876

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/713,444

Applicant(s)

FERGEN ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel St.Cyr

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sheet with the correspond nce address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 132-152 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 132-152 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of preliminary amendment filed 11/15/00 in which claims 1-131 and 153-182 were canceled.
2. It is noted that this case in divisional of US application No. 09/058,547, now Patent No. 6,369,709.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: A system for processing financial transactions in a self-service library terminal.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 132-152 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Green et al, cited by the applicant.

Green et al disclose an automatic library control apparatus comprising: a pair of branch libraries 1 and 2 are shown connected over a plurality of telephone lines TL to a central site 3 housing the central control units. The local library branch 1 comprises a Check-In/Check-Out console 4, a Check-Out console 5, and an alpha-numeric input and output display unit 6; a branch controller 14 or 16 is used to code the input and output data and interfaces the I/O units

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to the computer; a modem 17 such as the Intertel Model 235, is provided to convert the digital data from the branch controller to an analog signal which is transmitted over the telephone lines TL; a second modem 18 is used at the central receiving site, the central site 3 includes a central processing unit 20, a communications controller 22, and modem 18, a line printer 23, and a series of on-line data files 24 and off-line files 25; an on-line files consist of a circulation file 31 which contains the patron identification number and the item number together with the date of the transaction, an overdue file 32 which contains the overdue item number and the number of overdue days, a reverse file 33 containing the reverse item number and the corresponding patron number, and expired file 34 which stores the expired patron's number together with the number of days the card has expired, a delinquent file 35 which contains the delinquent patron number and the amount owed by the delinquent account, and an auxiliary file 36 which is used for temporary data storage. The off-line files 25 comprise: a patron file 40 which contains the patron number and the name and address of the patron together with any fine accumulated from the overdue files of from returning damaged books, a statistical file 41 which stores the number of patrons and the total fines collected and may also be used for specialized statistical information needs, and an item file 42 which contains a complete inventory of items in the library system (see col. 4, line 15+; figures 1-4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 145-148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Green et al in view of Bohnert et al, US Patent No. 6,092,629. The teachings of Green et al have been discussed above.

Green et al fails to disclose or fairly suggest the type payment accepted by the terminal.

Bohnert et al disclose a service station island transaction terminal comprising: a magnetic card reader 53 enables a customer to use a debit card, credit cards, "smart" cards, and including a cash acceptor 52 (see figure 7).

In view of Bohnert et al's teachings, it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the well known transaction terminal of Bohnert et al in conjunction with the system of Green et al in order to make the system more convenient for the patrons to pay for their fees and services. Such modification would be more practical wherein a patron could pay their fees using a credit card, debit card, "smart card", or cash. Therefore, it would have been an obvious extension as taught by Green et al.

Conclusion

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9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Geraci, US Patent No. 5,143,193, discloses an automated library article terminal. Renner et al, US Patent No. 5,679,945, disclose an intelligent card reader having emulation features. Krause, US Patent No. 6,089,451, disclose systems for authenticating the use of transaction cards having a magnetic stripe. Larson et al, US Patent No. 6,369,709, disclose a terminal for libraries and the like.

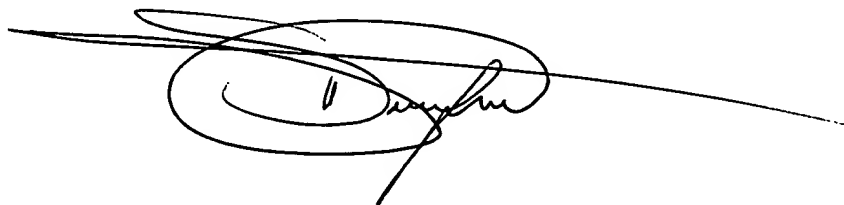
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel St.Cyr whose telephone number is 703-305-2656. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7721 for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Daniel St.Cyr
Examiner
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DS
September 17, 2002

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel St.Cyr', is written over a large, loopy circular scribble. A long horizontal line extends from the right side of the signature across the page.